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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/753,874	01/09/2004	Hans Joachim Halamoda	7863-80940	6117
42798	7590	05/18/2005	EXAMINER	
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY P. O. BOX 65973 WASHINGTON, DC 20035			NGUYEN, PHONG H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3724	

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/753,874

Applicant(s)

HALAMODA ET AL.

Examiner

Phong H Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. The finality of the Office action mailed on 01/25/2005 is withdrawn since the Examiner necessitates new grounds of rejection.

#### *Claim Objections*

2. Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 5, "an graduated" should be likely --a graduated--. Appropriate correction is required.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cotter (6,516,696 B2).

Regarding claim 1, Cotter teaches punching device capable of punching holes on a ceramic substrate comprising:

a receiving device, which has a substantially flat receiving face for  
a ceramic substrate (16), and in which a punched hole is embodied;

at least one die, which disposed above a punched hole and has a shaft 34 and an operative portion 28 that extends through a stripper opening 93' and whose diameter is less than the diameter of the shaft and greater than the diameter of an associated punched hole, and the operative portion has a punching portion 26 whose diameter is somewhat less than the diameter of the punched hole;

a drive mechanism (14, 10), which is connected in driving fashion to the die in order to move linearly by a defined stroke and in the process to move the punching portion into the punched hole and out of it; and

a die guide device 40, through which the shaft extends and which guides the die at its shaft. See Figs. 2-4.

Regarding claims 2 and 11, the upper portion of the punching portion is unguided in the transverse direction in a ready state as shown in Fig. 2.

Regarding claims 3 and 12, the guide device 90 having a bush 90 with a passage is best seen in Fig. 3.

Regarding claims 4 and 13, see Figs. 2 and 3.

Regarding claims 5, 14 and 15, as the die is moved downwardly a distance equal to the length of the punching portion 26, the punching portion makes a hole on the work piece 16. Therefore, the length of the punching portion is considered to be equal to the length of the stroke of the drive mechanism. See Fig. 2.

Regarding claims 6 and 16, it appears that the length of the operative portion is greater the stroke of the drive mechanism. See Fig. 2-4.

Regarding claim 7, the punched hole and a slug conduit having a greater diameter than the punched holed are best seen in Fig. 2.

Regarding claim 8, the diameter of the shaft 34 is a multiple of the diameter of a segment of the operative portion which is the punching portion. See Fig. 2.

Regarding claim 9, Cotter teaches punching device capable of punching holes on a ceramic substrate comprising: a receiving device, a die having a shaft 34, an operative portion having a first part 28 and a second punching part 26, a stripper opening 93', a drive mechanism (14, 10) and a die guide 40. See Figs. 2-4.

Regarding claims 10 and 19, see Fig. 2.

Regarding claims 17 and 20, see Fig. 2.

Regarding claim 18, Cotter teaches a tool for punching a sheet like substrate comprising:

a lower tool part having a flat receiving face for a substrate 16;

an upper tool part including a die having a shaft 34, a graduated operative portion including a first part 28 and a second punching part 26, a linear guide 40, a stripper bush 93' and a drive mechanism (14,10). See Figs. 2-4.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments, see the Remark filed on 04/14/2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-20 under Wilson (4,092,888), Kranik et al. (4,425,829), Kanawaza et al. (5,600,992), Hugo (4,246,815) have been fully considered and are

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persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Cotter (6,516,696 B2).

***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phong H Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4510. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan Shoap can be reached on 571-272-4514. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PN:



May 13, 2005



Allan N. Shoap  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
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